



Serial No. 10/773,031

REMARKS

Consideration of the above-identified application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested. By the present amendment, claims 20-25 are canceled, and claims 1 and 26 are amended. Claims 1-19 and 26-33 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-16, 20-21, and 23-25 are provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 for statutory double patenting over co-pending U.S. Application No. 10/320,798. The '798 application was allowed on March 11, 2005 and the issue fee was submitted on June 13, 2005. The '798 application should issue in due course. By the present Amendment, the claims of the subject application have been either canceled or amended to differentiate from the claims of the '798 application. The only basis set forth in the Office Action for rejecting claims 3, 7, and 9-16, 20, 21, and 23-25 is the double patenting rejection. Because the double patenting rejection has been traversed, allowance of claims 3, 7, and 9-16, 20, 21, and 23-25 is requested.

The Office Action does not address claims 17-19 at all. Allowance of claims 17-19 is requested.

Independent claims 1 and 26 stand rejected. It is respectfully submitted that the prior art cited in the Office Action, Chen et al. (US 6,204,458 B1) and Jost et al. (US 5,963,772), alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest all of the limitations recited in claims 1 and 26.

Claims 1 and 26 have been amended to recite compliant connectors comprising spaced current carrying members that

have surfaces that engage current carrying surfaces of a mounting body into which the compliant connectors are inserted to provide an electrical connection without the use of solder. The prior art cited in the Office Action does not teach or suggest this structure. Therefore, the rejection of claims 1 and 26 should be withdrawn and claims 1 and 26 should be allowed. Claims 2-19 depend from claim 1 and should also be allowed as depending from an allowable claim and for the specific features recited therein. Claims 27-33 depend from claim 26 and should also be allowed as depending from an allowable claim and for the specific features recited therein.

Regarding claim 5, the prior art cite in the Office Action does not teach or suggest the second contact including an actuator portion comprising a cam that protrudes from the housing. In Chen et al., the only part of the contacts that protrude from the housing are the connector pins 42 and 50.

Regarding claim 6, the prior art cite in the Office Action does not teach or suggest the cam protruding from a top wall of the housing opposite a bottom wall from which the connector portions protrude. Claim 6 is therefore allowable for this further reason.

Regarding claim 30, the prior art cite in the Office Action does not teach or suggest contact pads capable of switching electrical currents of up to about 14 amperes without arcing. Claim 30 is therefore allowable for this further reason.

Regarding claim 31, the prior art cite in the Office Action does not teach or suggest a first contact pad having a

cylindrical configuration with a flat contact surface and a second contact pad having a domed configuration with a domed contact surface. Claim 31 is therefore allowable for this further reason.

Regarding claim 32, the prior art cite in the Office Action does not teach or suggest a domed contact surface providing a wiping action against a flat contact surface. Claim 32 is therefore allowable for this further reason.

Regarding claim 33, the prior art cite in the Office Action does not teach or suggest compliant connector portions of at least one of said first and second contacts comprising a plurality of compliant connector pins. Claim 33 is therefore allowable for this further reason.

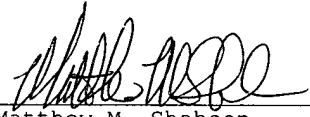
Claim 29 recites the structure of the contacts using means plus function language. This structure is not taught or suggested by the references cited in the Office Action. Claim 29 is therefore allowable.

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In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the above identified application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Matthew M. Shaheen  
Reg. No. 45,367

TAROLLI, SUNDHEIM, COVELL,  
& TUMMINO L.L.P.  
526 Superior Avenue - Suite 1111  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-1400  
Phone: (216) 621-2234  
Fax: (216) 621-4072  
Customer No.: 26294